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TULSA, OKLA.

**AFRO-AMERICAN CULLINGS**

Persons interested in the education  
of the colored youth in Washington  
recently had an opportunity to see a  
quadruplex exhibit showing what is  
being done in the way of training  
colored boys and girls. The fourfold  
exhibit was at the Miner Normal  
school, Georgia avenue and Euclid  
street, northwest. The greater por-  
tion of it was work done on the play-  
grounds during the summer; added to  
this were models showing dairy, water  
supply, housekeeping and other meth-  
ods, sanitary and insular. The re-  
maining two phases were in one sense  
not an exhibit of a formal nature, be-  
ing only the regular arrangement of  
material for study by students at the  
normal school and included the  
courses in domestic and other sci-  
ences, such as botany, zoology and  
psychology. Interested persons were  
made welcome at the school and  
shown the exhibits and school equip-  
ment.

No group of the exhibit was more  
interesting, probably, than the display  
of playground work. This represent-  
ed all of the industrial activities of  
the five colored school grounds under  
Miss Anita J. Turner. "Service" is  
the motto for all work turned out—  
that is, it must be of a character and  
structure that allows its use.

For instance, on display were all  
sorts of baskets, well made and at-  
tractively colored; pocketbooks,  
crocheted sacks and booties, aprons,  
little dresses, collars, dollies, hats,  
napkin rings and hammocks. Several  
girls attending the play centers  
brought their dolls and dressed them.  
Play aprons for children were made  
by the youngsters and decorated with  
subjects dear to the hearts of little  
ones—the three bears, the cow that  
jumped over the moon, rabbits, birds,  
camels, elephants and Mother Goose.

One especially attractive display  
was for table use. It included a cen-  
terpiece adapted for the joint use of  
flowers and fruit; dollies, reed nap-  
kin rings and coasters.

Because of the lack of money for  
material, work of this sort is limited.  
It is hoped that congress will appro-  
priate a sum for carrying it on, so that  
the maintenance money no longer  
will have to be raised through enter-  
tainments and other similar means.

Mrs. Susan Gillies, a Negro wom-  
an, who, according to the claim of her  
relatives, was born a slave, on a plan-  
tation in Virginia 115 years ago, died  
at her home, 571 Classon avenue,  
Brooklyn. The aged Negress lived  
with her daughter, Mrs. Julia Thom-  
as, eighty-four years of age, and her  
great-granddaughter, Mrs. Ella Ab-  
bott. Five generations of Mrs. Gil-  
lies' family attended her funeral.

Mrs. Thomas was very positive as  
to the age of her mother. She de-  
clared that she was born in the year  
1800, at Peterborough, Va., on the Pe-  
tersen plantation, and lived in servitude  
with the Petersen family until  
1863. Mrs. Thomas declared that her  
mother often told her of visits paid  
to the plantation by James Monroe  
before and after his terms as presi-  
dent of the United States. Mrs. Thom-  
as was born on the same plantation  
and she also lived in slavery until  
1863.

There are about 12,000 cremations  
each year in the United States. The  
first crematory was established in  
1876 and during the eight succeeding  
years only 28 human bodies were  
cremated.

In a communication to the New  
York World A. J. Casserly of Jersey  
City, N. J., writes as follows:

I read with considerable interest  
your editorial "Some Native Sons."  
In these days of criticism of hyphe-  
nated citizens your reference to a class  
of citizens which is content to be  
plain, pure, simple Americans, fur-  
nishes some food for serious thought.  
You have rightly said that "one of  
the strongest of their racial character-  
istics is devotion to country and  
home." This virtue has been man-  
ifest long prior to and since the days  
of Jethro of the land of Midian. His-  
tory reports the view that the black  
man has always proven true to home  
and country.

God forbid that the great mass of  
American Negroes should boast un-  
ceasingly of our forefathers' devotion  
and worth, or of their own. Pre-emi-  
nently on the pages of history is em-  
blazoned the fact that in no crisis has  
the black man been found wanting in  
devotion to right or in seeking out  
and supporting the truth as it was  
given to him to know it.

Appropos of this discussion, it may

Liverpool has the world's largest  
dry dock, 1,020 feet long and 155 wide  
at the water line, the only one in the  
world large enough to receive 50,000  
ton liners.

American manufacturers of lead  
pencils now have the business of the  
far East practically to themselves.

An electrically operated tremolo at-  
tachment for stringed instruments has  
been invented which produces the de-  
sired effects when buttons are pressed.

If he (Booker Washington) seemed  
to underemphasize the difficulties  
growing out of external political and  
social restriction, it was rather due to  
his unceasing cry that the kingdom  
of power and wealth and dignity can  
rest finally only on spiritual achieve-  
ment, self-control, foresight, thrift, the  
practice of the common virtues. No  
breaking out of the outer bonds can  
alone free the spiritual slave. . . .  
No one could hear him with an open  
mind, however, and fail to realize that  
his message was equally applicable to  
the white race. No one could fail to  
realize that he saw the weakness of  
his white neighbors and felt the bit-  
terness of the political and social re-  
strictions enforced by the whites.

Booker T. Washington was, how-  
ever, always more than a Negro—  
nobly human within his race—and be-  
cause of this, the simple people of his  
own race, the honest-hearted of both  
races, heard and followed. He had  
many great human qualities of leader-  
ship, of organizing capacity, of or-  
atorical power, and of imagination.  
His contribution is richer because  
gifts peculiar to his people. That ra-  
humor, the exquisite sense of another  
er's feeling that is the basis of social  
power, rich vocabulary, high emotional  
appeal! American life would be so  
enormously enriched if we thought in  
terms of what colored people can do  
instead of what they must be prevent-  
ed from trying to do!

And so his contribution to the think-  
ing of the white South has not always  
been clear. Though the least thought-  
ful realized that he was not a "com-  
mon Nigger" to be called "Booker,"  
they did not always arrive at the  
point of recognizing the dignity of the  
man by calling him "mister;" but they  
could find a middle path by calling  
him "professor." For thousands of  
white persons that short step is the  
first advance in the direction of free-  
ing their own spirits. For, of course,  
the race or caste feeling is a band  
tight about the spirits of the white  
South, to many of whom Booker T.  
Washington gave the first glimmering  
sense of their own bondage.

For these, his service is incalculable,  
one never to be measured, and to be  
recognized only gradually and by re-  
latively few. And yet, as the nation  
could not live half bond and half free  
in the days of political slavery, so in  
the days to come the spiritual bonds  
of prejudice are to be broken from  
the white South, as those to which he  
called attention are to be stricken from  
the black South. Only when both are  
removed will either be wholly free.—  
Sophonisba P. Breckinridge in the  
Survey.

There are about 427 Negro schools  
in the United States, other than ele-  
mentary public schools and public high  
schools, or those in any sense under  
government and state control. Of  
these, 57 are put down as colleges and  
universities. All but three of the fifty-  
seven are avowedly denominational. Of  
the 16 institutions for Negro women  
only all but three are accredited to  
some denomination. Of the 354 nor-  
mal, industrial and private schools all  
but 89 are reported as denominational.

The first president born in the Uni-  
ted States of America after the sign-  
ing of the Declaration of Independ-  
ence and the establishment of national  
unity was Martin Van Buren, who  
was born in the state of New York  
in 1782.

not be amiss to refer to the agitation  
of a few years ago, begun by loyal  
American Negroes, for participation  
in the National Guard service of the  
country. I submit that no just rea-  
son may be advanced why there  
should not be in every state of this  
Union colored regiments or battal-  
ions connected with the National  
Guard system. To such a program  
the rank and file of American Negroes  
would, ignoring past rebuffs, uncondi-  
tionally subscribe.

Finishing of the new Canadian gov-  
ernment grain elevator at Calgary  
marks the completion of the chain of  
government elevators between the  
Great Lakes and the Rocky moun-  
tains, those at Saskatoon and Moose-  
jaw being in operation now.

A specially designed reflector en-  
ables a new projecting lantern to pro-  
duce about 500,000 candlepower by  
using a 1,000-watt, nitrogen-filled in-  
candescent lamp.

Villa "dollars" bring one cent each  
in New York.

The bark of a cactus growing wild  
in western Mexico has been found to  
contain enough resin after the death  
of the plant to make its utilization  
practicable.

The flag pole on top of a tower on  
a New York hotel has been so mount-  
ed that it can be lowered into a tubu-  
lar casing for painting or repairing.

Italy exports from \$3,000,000 to \$4,  
000,000 worth of human hair annu-  
ally.

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